

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00283 161224 Z

20

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 T-03 INR-09 L-03 M-03 A-01 SS-05

BAL-03 PER-05 RSR-01 RSC-01 INRE-00 /069 W  
----- 071773

P 151251 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3474

S E C R E T REYKJAVIK 0283

STADIS//////////

FOR ATTENTION OF EUR/ NE - SCOTT GEORGE

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR IC  
SUBJECT: US- ICELANDIC DEFENSE FORCE ISSUE SUBSTITUTION OF  
OF CONTRACT FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

FOL MSG FROM CINCLANT SENT ACTION REYKJAVIK INFO COMICEDEFOR  
MAR 15 RPTD TO YOU.

QUOTE:

S E C R E T // N03020//  
PERSONAL AMBASSADOR IRVING INFO RADM BELING FROM COUSINS  
DELIVER DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS  
1. (U) REF YOUR FONECON 12 MARCH WITH LEW HOFFACKER ON THE  
CONTRACT  
(LOCKHEED) CIVILIZATION PROPOSAL. THIS APPROACH HAS BEEN  
EXAMINED HERE BUT HAS NOT BEEN STAFFED AT THE WASHINGTON LEVEL AND  
THEREFORE IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION, AND BACKGROUND, BUT OF  
COURSE CANNOT FORM A BASIS FOR ENCOURAGEMENT OR COMMITMENT TO  
THE  
FONMIN.  
2. (S) IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FONMIN THE FOLLOWING POINTS ARE  
CONSIDERED TO BE GERMANE:  
A. THE JCS CONSIDER THAT... NONE OF THE PROPOSED ( SUBSTITUTION  
STUDIES) CONVERSIONS SHOULD BE MADE, PENDING CONCLUSION OF...  
DEFENSE  
AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS.  
B. INTRODUCTION OF CIVILIANS INTO THE IDF, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER  
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THEY BE ICELANDERS OR U. S. CONTRACT PERSONNEL, WOULD PROBABLY  
REDUCE

THE MILITARY CAPABILITY OF THE IDF TO DEFEND THE ISLAND.

C. ANY OFFER FOR REDUCTION OF MILITARY STRENGTH GOES COUNTER TO  
PREVIOUS U. S. INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE ICELANDERS THAT THE  
CURRENT

MILITARY STRENGTH IS THE BARE MINIMUM TO PERFORM THE IDF ROLE. HOW-  
EVER, AGREEING TO USING ICELANDERS OR U. S. CONTRACT PERSONNEL  
COULD BE POLITICALLY ACCEPTABLE AS LONG AS THE ICELANDERS CAN BE  
CONVINCED THAT A SMALL INCREMENTAL CHANGE IN MILITARY MANPOWER  
WOULD NOT SERIOUSLY DEGRADE THE IDF. THIS APPROACH, HOWEVER, HAS  
THE POTENTIAL TRAP OF CAUSING A CREDIBILITY GAP BECAUSE OF THE  
PREVIOUS INSISTENCE THAT THE IDF IS NOW MINIMALLY MANNED.

D. FILLING THE POSITIONS WITH CIVILIANS COULD BE DIFFICULT DUE TO  
ICELAND'S LABOR PICTURE, THE PROBABLE DIFFICULTY IN GETTING U. S.  
CIVILIANS TO ACCEPT THE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT THERE, OR THE  
HOUSING PROBLEM. RESULT OF NOT FILLING THE JOB COULD BE JOB  
ELIMINATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH BUDGET AND CEILING REVIEWS; ANY  
SUCH ELIMINATIONS COULD HAVE UNDESIRABLE MILITARY STRENGTH AND  
POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS.

3. (U) FOLLOWING GENERAL INFORMATION IS PROVIDED ON USE OF  
CONTRACTORS AT SOME MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

A. CONTRACTORS ARE CURRENTLY USED FOR MANY FUNCTIONS FROM  
PARTIAL  
BASE SUPPORT TO FULL BASE OPERATIONS.

(1) EXAMPLES OF PARTIAL CONTRACT SUPPORT: MAINTENANCE OF  
COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT; MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES  
BASE BUS SERVICE; LAUNDRY SERVICE; OFFICE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE;  
JANITORIAL SERVICE; FOOD SERVICE; SEWAGE AND WASTE DISPOSAL.

(2) EXAMPLES OF TOTAL CONTRACT SUPPORT:

(A) VANCE AIR FORCE BASE, OKLAHOMA OPERATED BY CONTRACTOR  
IN SUPPORT OF PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM. TRAINING DONE BY USAF  
PERSONNEL BUT THE BASE IS OPERATED AND MAINTAINED BY CONTRACTOR.

(B) AIRFIELD AT ELEUTHERA IS OPERATED BY CONTRACT PERSONNEL,

AIRFIELD USED TO SUPPORT U. S. NAVAL FACILITY ON ISLAND; NO SELF-  
DEFENSE CAPABILITY INVOLVED IN MISSION OF NAVFAC ELEUTHERA.

B. USE OF CONTRACTORS HAS GENERALLY PROVIDED SATISFACTORY SERVICE  
WHERE USED. MAJOR PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN OVER COST, I. E. COST ENDS UP  
BEING GREATER THAN PROGRAMMED WHICH CREATES BUDGET AND  
REPROGRAMMING  
DIFFICULTIES.

4. (U) WARM REGARDS.

GDS-81 UNQUOTE

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SECRET

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* STADIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 125  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971204  
**Subject:** US- ICELANDIC DEFENSE FORCE ISSUE SUBSTITUTION OF OF CONTRACT FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL  
**TAGS:** MARR, IC  
**To:** EUR  
**SECSTATE WASHDC**  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005